UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
MIAMI DIVISION

CASE NO.: 23-21512-CIV-ALTONAGA/Damian

LIDIA NOEMI ZALAZAR, an individual, Plaintiff,

-vs-

CAPITAL FORCE LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; CAPITAL FORCE F1 LLC, a Delaware limited liability; MATIAS COSTANTINI, an individual; JUAN CRUZ TALIA BROWN, an individual; JONATHAN CULLEY, an individual,

Defendants.

\_\_\_\_\_

Duane Morris LLP

201 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 3400

Miami, Florida 33131

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

1:09 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.

DEPOSITION OF

ANDRES INI

CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR

MELTORME, LLC

Taken before Jasmine Mercedes, Court Reporter, a Notary Public for the State of Florida at Large, pursuant to Notice of Taking Deposition filed in the above-styled cause.



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Page 2
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 3
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10
       BY: GERARDO ALVARO VAZQUEZ, ESQ.
11
12
       On Behalf of the Defendants, Matias Costantini,
13
       Juan Cruz Talia Brown, and Jonathan Culley:
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       BY: PHILLIP M. HUDSON, III, ESQ.
21
22
       Also Present:
23
       Javier Aparisi-Winthuysen, Spanish Interpretor
24
25
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Page 4
    THEREUPON:
 2
              COURT REPORTER: Good afternoon, everyone.
                                                            Ιt
 3
         is now 1:09 p.m. We are on the record.
              And, sir, Interpreter, I'm going to swear you
         in first.
 5
                    JAVIER APARISI-WINTHUYSEN,
 6
 7
              was duly sworn to truly and accurately
         translate the testimony from English to Spanish and
 8
 9
         Spanish to English.
10
              COURT REPORTER: And for the record, I've
         already identified the witness for this deposition
11
12
         today, and I will swear in the witness.
13
                           ANDRES INI,
14
              having been first duly sworn and responding,
15
         "Yes, I swear," was examined and testified as
16
         follows:
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. Mr. Ini --
17
              COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
18
19
              MR. VAZQUEZ: -- let me -- let's set up
20
         something procedurally. Since we have an
21
         interpreter, and I -- listen to me one second --
22
         and I know that you understand some English, okay.
23
         We're either doing it in English, or we're doing it
         in Spanish. We're going to do it in Spanish.
24
2.5
              THE WITNESS: In Spanish.
```



```
Page 5
              MR. VAZQUEZ: So even if you understand,
1
2
         please wait for the interpreter --
              THE WITNESS: Perfect, perfect.
3
              MR. VAZQUEZ: -- to provide -- okay.
              THE WITNESS: Perfect.
5
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Interpret what it is, and then
6
7
         respond.
              THE WITNESS: Very clear to me.
8
9
              COURT REPORTER: Okay. And if Counsel could
10
        please state their appearances for the record.
11
              MR. VAZQUEZ: On behalf of Mr. Andres Ini,
12
         with the company, Meltorme, Gerardo Vazquez.
13
              MR. HUDSON: Phillip Hudson of Duane Morris
         for Matias Costantini; Jon Culley, C-U-L-L-E-Y;
14
15
         Juan Cruz Talia Brown.
              COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
16
17
              Counsel, whenever you're ready.
18
              MR. HUDSON: Thank you.
19
                       DIRECT EXAMINATION
2.0
    BY MR. HUDSON:
21
         Q. Good afternoon, sir.
22
              Thank you very much.
23
              So we're going to do this in Spanish, and
24
    we're going to use an interpreter. As your counsel
    indicated, we need to develop a rhythm where the three
25
```



- 1 of us communicate without speaking over one another.
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. This young lady is taking down everything that
- 4 we say, and she cannot take down multiple people
- 5 speaking at one time.
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. You don't want her mad at you.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. Okay. Let's go. Please state, then spell
- 10 your name.
- 11 A. Andres Ini. Andres, as in A-N-D-R-E-S, and
- 12 Ini, as in I-N-I.
- 13 Q. Is that your legal name?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Where do you reside?
- 16 A. In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 17 Q. May I have your address, please?
- 18 A. Avenida Dorrego, as in A-V-E-N-I-D-A, Dorrego,
- 19 D-O-R-R-E-G-O, 1869 Segundo, as in number 2 with a
- 20 little O, P-I-S-O, F, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 21 Q. Is that a single-family home?
- 22 A. I live alone there.
- 23 Q. Is it a house or a condominium or an
- 24 apartment?
- 25 A. It's a building that has several apartments,



Page 7 and I live in one of the apartments. 2 Q. Do you own the apartment? Α. Yes. 3 What is your citizenship status? Q. A. In Buenos Aires, legal. 5 You're an Argentinian citizen? 6 Q. 7 Α. Yes. Q. Do you carry an Argentinian passport? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Q. Do you have any citizenship status or residency status in the United States? 11 12 Α. No. Have you ever sought any residency or 13 citizenship status in the United States? 14 15 Α. No. Do you have any desire to seek residency or 16 citizenship status in the United States? 18 Α. No. Do you have any assets in the United States? 19 20 No. Α. 21 Have you ever had any assets in the United Q. 22 States? 23 Α. The 01 Visa, the -- the one for talent. Q. 24 Do you consider that an asset? 25 It's something good for me. Α.



```
Page 8
              Okay. When I asked you, do you have any
2
    assets in the U.S., what I meant was, do you have any
    real estate? Do you own any cars? That's what I mean
3
    by an asset.
5
         Α.
           Okay. Personally? No.
              In any fashion? Indirectly?
6
         Q.
7
         Α.
              Through the company? Yes.
         Q.
            Okay. What's the name of the company?
9
             Meltorme, LLC.
        Α.
10
         Q. And what does Meltorme, LLC, own?
         A. It's a one-one. I think that's what it's
11
12
    called. It's in a one-one apartment.
13
              COURT REPORTER: May I have the spelling for
         the apartment? I mean, for the Tome? Meltorme.
14
15
              MR. HUDSON: It's in the notice.
              MR. VAZQUEZ: It's on the notice.
16
17
              THE INTERPRETER: M-E-L-T-O-R-M-E. It's a
18
         famous entertainer.
19
              MR. HUDSON: Well, I'm actually going to ask
         that question.
20
    BY MR. HUDSON:
21
22
              Where did the name Meltorme come from?
23
         A. My favorite movie.
             What's the movie?
24
         Q.
25
        A. Top secret.
```



- 1 Q. Do you know that there's a famous singer in
- 2 the United States named Mel Torme?
- 3 A. Yes. I am a singer, and that's why I do.
- 4 Q. I was right. The young people don't know who
- 5 Mel Torme is.
- 6 A. I have a -- a very old soul.
- 7 O. Good. So do I. Okay. Who owns Meltorme?
- 8 A. My female cousin, Valeria Galante (phonetic).
- 9 She's American. She's a citizen. And I, Andy, or
- 10 Andres, Ini.
- 11 Q. You own 99 percent; she owns 1 percent?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. And you opened that company in about January
- 14 of 2020?
- 15 A. Exactly. Capital Force -- Capital Force
- 16 opened it for me.
- 17 Q. Okay. Who at Capital Force opened it for you?
- 18 A. An employee by the name of Diego Gomez,
- 19 together with the attorneys who were working there.
- Q. Attorneys working where?
- 21 A. Well, according to Diego Gomez, the attorneys
- 22 either for the company or attorneys who were advising
- 23 the company were the ones in charge of opening the LLC.
- Q. Was that Jennifer Snyder?
- 25 A. I don't know that. I only spoke with Diego



- 1 Gomez.
- 2 Q. Okay. How did you know Diego Gomez?
- 3 A. So that was back in 2016. When I met Diego, I
- 4 did a show for his dad in Colonia, C-O-L-O-N-I-A,
- 5 Uruguay. And at the time, the dad introduces me to
- 6 Diego. He said that was his son who was living in the
- 7 U.S. And because I was already set to go on vacation in
- 8 Miami in January, he put me in contact with his son so I
- 9 would have a friend here.
- 10 Q. The vacation was in 2016?
- 11 A. No. They were in 2017, but I met Diego in
- 12 2016.
- 13 Q. Right. Did you meet him when you were in
- 14 Miami on vacation in 2017?
- 15 A. I met him in 2016 at the event in Uruguay.
- Q. Right. And then did you come to Miami in 2017
- 17 on vacation?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Did you meet Diego in Miami when you were here
- 20 on vacation?
- 21 A. We got together one time to eat something over
- 22 at a Dennis restaurant.
- 23 MR. VAZQUEZ: Was it Denny's or Dennis?
- 24 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Spell it?



- 1 A. The one that's cheap. The one that's yellow
- 2 and red, the one that gives you cholesterol.
- 3 MR. HUDSON: And I think they have Mel Torme
- 4 playing on the sound system. I told you I was
- 5 going to be a comedian.
- 6 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 7 Q. When did you first speak to Diego Gomez about
- 8 Capital Force?
- 9 A. In 2017, when I asked him what he was doing
- 10 here in Miami, and he said that he was working for this
- 11 financial company.
- 12 Q. And did he suggest in 2017 that you invest
- 13 with him?
- 14 A. Yes. He told me to invest with him, but back
- 15 then at that moment, I did not have money.
- 16 Q. Did you ultimately invest with Diego's
- 17 company?
- 18 MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. Object as to form of the
- 19 question.
- MR. HUDSON: You can answer.
- 21 MR. VAZQUEZ: Once in a while I may object to
- 22 something. That does not mean that you don't have
- 23 to answer. It just -- you still have to answer the
- 24 question.
- THE WITNESS: Well, what did my attorney just



Page 12 say to me? He talked to me in English. 2 MR. HUDSON: Okay. Stop. 3 MR. VAZQUEZ: Go ahead. BY MR. HUDSON: 4 5 I'm going to do some ground rules, so we're all on the same page. Okay. Not your fault. It's our 6 7 fault. Α. Yes. Okay. 9 Have you ever been deposed before? 0. 10 Α. No. Okay. This is a deposition. This is what we 11 Q. 12 call a deposition. So you're the witness, and I am deposing you which means I'm asking you questions. 13 14 reason I'm asking you questions is because you have sued 15 my clients alleging that they defrauded you. 16 Are you aware of that? 17 Α. Yes. Okay. In front of you have a binder that has 18 Q. 19 a copy of the lawsuit where you are suing my clients. 20 I'd like you to open it up. You can look through it, 21 and tell me if you've ever seen it before. 22 Yes. It's in English. 23 Ο. Do you read English? I don't understand English very well. A few 24 Α. 25 odds and ends that I can read to -- to get by. Is there



Page 13 any segment here you'd like me to read? Not yet. I just want to know if you recognize 2 3 that lawsuit that your lawyer filed on your behalf? Of course. Α. 5 MR. HUDSON: All right. So let's mark that binder as -- I don't remember what we are calling 6 7 this. Defendants. We'll mark them Defendants' with 9 numbers. We'll mark this as Defendants' 1 for this 10 depo. (Thereupon, Defendants' Exhibit 1 was marked 11 12 for identification.) BY MR. HUDSON: 13 14 Ο. Please hand me the binder. You'll get it 15 back. 16 What is that ticket they're putting on it? It's so that when we use this -- if we use 17 Ο. this deposition in court, we now know what it is you're 18 19 looking at. 20 Α. Okay. 21 When this deposition is finished, she will

- 22 send me, and she'll send your lawyer a copy we can read.
- 23 And the exhibits will be attached.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. So a deposition is when one of the parties --



- 1 any one of the parties can take a deposition. Asks the
- 2 witnesses -- you're a witness. You're also a party for
- 3 any factual information they have to support their
- 4 claims in the lawsuit.
- 5 A. Very well.
- 6 Q. There's no judge here. There's no jury here.
- 7 I'm not here to trick you. I'm not here to try to win
- 8 my case today. I'm just here to get the facts that you
- 9 have that support your position. If I ask you a
- 10 question you don't understand, tell me you don't
- 11 understand it, and I will ask it a different way.
- 12 A. Okay. Very well.
- 13 Q. I don't want you to guess, and your lawyer
- 14 doesn't want you to guess. If you don't know the
- 15 answer, just say, I don't know. If you don't remember
- 16 the answer, just say, I don't remember. I may be able
- 17 to show you something that will help your memory, I may
- 18 not. You can take a break at any time, but if I have
- 19 asked you a question, you must answer the question
- 20 before you take a break.
- 21 A. All right.
- 22 Q. Because you do speak a little English, if you
- 23 feel the interpreter has not correctly interpreted your
- 24 answer, please let us know, and we'll try to work that
- 25 out.



- 1 A. Very well.
- Q. Okay. So let's keep going. What is your
- 3 educational background?
- A. I have an undergraduate degree in social
- 5 communication. I graduated from the University of
- 6 Buenos Aires. And I work in radio, television, and
- 7 theater.
- Q. What year were you born?
- 9 A. 1979.
- 10 Q. So once you graduated, what was your first
- 11 job?
- 12 A. Television script writer.
- 13 Q. Okay. Since your first job, have all of your
- 14 subsequent jobs been in the entertainment field?
- 15 A. No. I also was selling cloth. I was a
- 16 textile salesperson.
- 17 Q. The warp and the woof. Tell me --
- 18 THE INTERPRETER: Jennifer is going to have
- 19 difficulty with that.
- 20 MR. HUDSON: There may not be a translation.
- THE INTERPRETER: Repeat.
- 22 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Does he know the word warp, W-A-R-P?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. It's a type of weave for cloth. One direction



- 1 is the warp; one is the woof. You learn a lot in my
- 2 business.
- 3 A. I was selling just plain cloth for pants and
- 4 then finer cloth for the polo shirt and so on.
- 5 Q. Okay. How long did you do that?
- 6 A. I did it for three years.
- 7 Q. And then what did you do after that?
- 8 A. I started doing standup and radio.
- 9 Q. You think I have a chance?
- 10 A. As soon as I saw you, I realized that you
- 11 would be an excellent partner.
- 12 Q. I'm the straight man.
- 13 A. I -- so on -- on -- when you have a dual with
- 14 -- with two comedians, there's always one who's a
- 15 serious guy and the other one who that -- makes the
- 16 jokes.
- 17 Q. We call it the straight man. I'm the straight
- 18 man.
- 19 A. If one day you want to leave your profession,
- 20 I invite you to come to the theater with me.
- 21 Q. I'm Dean Martin. Do you know Dean Martin?
- 22 Okay. So once you started the comedy standup
- 23 three years after the textile business, has every job
- 24 been in the entertainment field since then?
- 25 A. Yes.



Page 17 Do you have -- other than this Capital Force 2 transaction, do you have any other types of investments 3 or situations where you have put money into hoping for a positive return? 5 Α. No. No. Do you have a business manager? 6 7 Α. No. No. Do you have an --Q. 9 No. No. Α. 10 Q. I'm sorry. When you talked about Meltorme, did you sell say Meltorme owned a one-bedroom apartment 11 12 in Miami? Yes. Because my female cousin does real 13 Α. 14 estate. 15 Okay. And that apartment has nothing to do with Capital Force, correct? 16 Nothing. 17 Α. Q. Do you know who Jonathan Culley is? 18 19 Α. He -- he worked for Capital Force. 20 Q. Have you ever met Jonathan Culley? 21 Α. No. I only got together in person with Matias Costantini. 22

- Q. And so do you know who Juan Cruz Talia Brown
- 24 is?
- 25 A. I know he works over at Capital Force, but he



- 1 wasn't there at that meeting with Matias.
- 2 Q. So you've never met him before either,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Well, both Juan and Jon, I -- I learned of
- 5 them through conversations with Diego Gomez, but the
- 6 only one who I ever met in person was Matias.
- 7 Q. Okay. Do you recall ever communicating in any
- 8 other fashion, WhatsApp, e-mail, text, with Juan or Jon?
- 9 A. Only with Matias.
- 10 Q. So tell me when you first met Matias.
- 11 A. So I first met Matias in January of 2020 at --
- 12 at his office on -- in Brickell, the Capital Force
- 13 offices for Brickell. And he explained to me the
- 14 investments, the returns, and the options were
- 15 investments.
- 16 Q. And that's before you invested, correct?
- 17 A. At the same time.
- 18 Q. Okay. You should have exhibits toward the end
- 19 of that document. It doesn't look like they're tabbed.
- 20 Maybe your lawyer can help you.
- 21 MR. HUDSON: We're looking for Exhibits P, as
- in Paul, and Q. They're P and Q.
- 23 MR. VAZQUEZ: It's this document here towards
- the end.
- THE INTERPRETER: We have P --



```
Page 19
              MR. VAZQUEZ: And I'm sorry, there's --
1
 2
              MR. HUDSON: There's two --
 3
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Oh, no. I apologize.
              THE INTERPRETER: Interpreter has P here.
 4
 5
              MR. VAZQUEZ: P. Yeah. Let's start with P.
              THE INTERPRETER: P. Okay.
 6
7
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Here, do you want to put some
         stickers on those so you can find them easily?
9
              THE INTERPRETER: I think that -- P.
10
    BY MR. HUDSON:
         Q. Okay. So what you're looking at is Exhibit P
11
12
    -- I'm sorry. Tab P to Exhibit 1 that we've marked in
    this deposition. Take a look at that document and tell
13
14
    me if you recognize it.
15
              Should I read the whole thing?
              Whatever you need to do to recognize the
16
         0.
    document.
17
             What should -- what -- what do I have to do
18
         Α.
19
    with this?
             The first document is called Secured Fixed
20
         Q.
    Interest Only Promissory Note. Do you agree with that?
21
22
              Oh, a fixed -- a secured fixed interest?
23
              Well, I'm asking you: Do you agree that's what
24
    this document says?
             MR. VAZQUEZ: Object just to the form of the
2.5
```



Page 20 question. 2 You can answer. 3 THE WITNESS: Honestly, my English is not good enough to be able to respond to you, but I -- I can 5 respond to you based on what I spoke with Matias. BY MR. HUDSON: 6 7 Okay. Well, let's keep going. This document says that Meltorme, LLC, is lending to one of the Capital Force entities, Capital Force, LLC, \$180,000. 10 And under section 1, it says that Capital Force is to pay ten percent fixed interest to Meltorme on the loan. 11 12 And above that, where it talks about Meltorme, it defines Meltorme as "lender". 13 So do you recall lending Capital Force 14 15 \$180,000 in January of 2020? 16 I did not lend it to them, but rather I made an investment. 17 Okay. Well, this document says that Meltorme 18 19 loaned \$180,000. And if you look on Page 5 of that 20 document, Meltorme signed the document, and it appears 21 by Diego Gomez. 22 Do you see that? 23 Diego Gomez was their employee. I understand. The corporate records of the 24 Q. 25 state of Florida show that Diego Gomez was a manager of



- 1 Meltorme. Do you know what that means?
- 2 A. From what I gather, he was on both sides of
- 3 the counter.
- 4 Q. Do you dispute that Diego Gomez was a manager
- 5 for Meltorme in January of 2020?
- 6 A. Well, he's the one who set up the company, and
- 7 he put himself as a manager. But we never talked about
- 8 a loan, but -- always of an investment.
- 9 Q. Okay. How many meetings did you have with
- 10 Matias?
- 11 A. In person, I had one. Like I said before,
- 12 around this time in January of 2020.
- Q. Who else was in that meeting?
- 14 A. My girlfriend at the time.
- 15 Q. Anybody else?
- 16 A. Honestly, I don't remember whether or not
- 17 Diego Gomez was there. I don't remember. He might have
- 18 been.
- 19 Q. Did Diego Gomez give you any information about
- 20 this opportunity?
- 21 A. Both Diego and Matias Costantini showed me a
- 22 giant screen with a PowerPoint.
- 23 Q. This promissory note that we're looking at is
- 24 attached to your lawsuit and is the basis for your
- 25 lawsuit. So if you have any concerns with this



- 1 promissory note, whether it wasn't signed appropriately,
- 2 you need to tell me what those concerns are today.
- 3 A. I don't understand the question.
- Q. Okay. Your lawyer, by attaching this to your
- 5 complaint, has taken the position that you're owed money
- 6 consistent with this document, this note.
- 7 A. That's right.
- 8 Q. Okay. So you agree that this note is
- 9 enforceable against Meltorme?
- 10 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
- 11 question.
- 12 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 13 Q. You can answer.
- 14 A. I don't understand the question.
- Q. Turn to the next Exhibit Q. This is a second
- 16 secured fixed interest only promissory note. It's for
- 17 \$150,000. It's dated January 24th, 2021. How much was
- 18 your initial advance to the -- to Capital Force?
- 19 A. The previous one?
- 20 Q. 180,000.
- 21 A. Yes. But can I add something?
- Q. You can ask. I may not answer it, but go
- 23 ahead.
- 24 A. The first time I got together with Matias, he
- 25 told me that the interest that I was going to get out of



- 1 my investment was going to be ten percent. I asked him,
- 2 could it be 12 percent?
- 3 He told me that the only way to get a higher
- 4 interest in, for example, 20 percent, was if I
- 5 participated in the greatest -- greater profits and also
- 6 the greater losses. And because I did not want to
- 7 participate in the losses, I chose to go the safe route.
- 8 And that would've been ten percent without
- 9 risk, according to Matias' words, nevertheless.
- 10 Nevertheless, they lowered the interest rate to six
- 11 percent, and then to eight percent. They never really
- 12 fulfilled the set interest rate. All of only -- there
- 13 were only two months when they were paying ten percent.
- 14 Q. Was there a time when you were given 30 -- you
- 15 asked for and were given \$30,000 of your 180,000 back?
- 16 A. I wanted everything back. But what Diego
- 17 Gomez told me, he -- he said that you had to follow the
- 18 company and the capital of the investment that was made
- 19 by the investors there so that it would not be lost to
- 20 support the company, and that way we don't --would all
- 21 be safe. And then that the main capital would not be
- 22 lost. And for that reason, they could give me 30,000,
- 23 and for me to keep on waiting and trusting that
- 24 everything was going to turn out better.
- 25 Q. Okay. So you did receive 180, I'm sorry. You



Page 24 did receive \$30,000 back, correct? 2 It was. And -- and they ended up owing me 3 \$150,000? Correct. And that's probably why this second 4 Q. 5 note was created, Exhibit Q. That is what I'm claiming. 6 Α. 7 MR. HUDSON: Okay. Yeah. MR. VAZQUEZ: Give me just a one-minute break. 9 I'm going to go to the restroom. 10 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Yes, I am tired. COURT REPORTER: Okay. Off the record. 11 1:57 12 p.m. (Off Record.) 13 COURT REPORTER: It is 2:06 p.m. We are back 14 15 on the record. 16 BY MR. HUDSON: Q. So according to your lawsuit, you borrowed, 17 I'm sorry, you loaned Capital Force \$180,000, were 18 19 repaid 30, and now you are owed \$150,000. Do you dispute that? 20 21 I'm going to make it more exact. In June of 2022, when they said that they were going to be paying 22 23 everything back little by little, I received a payment

## MAGNA D LEGAL SERVICES

24

25

of \$1,500. That -- and then that wasn't interest, but

rather part of the capital, according to them. So the

- 1 exact amount would be 148,500 to make everything very
- 2 clear.
- Q. Okay.
- A. Yeah.
- 5 Q. The two promissory notes show that Capital
- 6 Force, LLC, owes the money to Meltorme. Do you disagree
- 7 with that?
- A. They owe me money, correct.
- 9 Q. Capital Force, LLC, does?
- 10 A. They owe me money. 148,500, without taking
- 11 into account the interest from January of 2022 to the
- 12 present date.
- Q. But my point is, you advanced money from and
- 14 got an agreement to repay that money from Capital Force,
- 15 not my three individual clients, correct?
- 16 A. There wasn't any repayment settlement. There
- 17 wasn't any -- any proposal.
- 18 Q. Did Matias Costantini ever personally agree to
- 19 repay you any money?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Did Juan Cruz Talia Brown ever agree to repay
- 22 you any money?
- 23 A. I never actually spoke with Juan Cruz or Jon,
- 24 but Matias in 2022 said that he was going to pay
- 25 everyone. He wasn't going to leave anyone hanging.



- 1 Q. Do you believe that was Matias Costantini
- 2 agreeing to pay you personally from his assets or to pay
- 3 you back from Capital Force?
- 4 A. In the first meeting I had -- so -- so the --
- 5 the first meeting, we had -- 80 percent of the time he
- 6 spent the whole time saying -- showing off how rich he
- 7 was. You know, he was one of the richest guys in
- 8 Argentina. You know, they had a place in Key Biscayne,
- 9 had a Ferrari, a yacht. And it was, you know, a wealthy
- 10 family, a very well-known family name. And that family
- 11 name was a quarantee.
- 12 Q. Okay. Let's do it this way. I need you to
- 13 answer the next question yes or no. No explanation.
- 14 Once you answer yes or no, then you can explain if you
- 15 feel the need to explain.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Did Matias Costantini ever personally agree to
- 18 repay you personally, the money that you loan to Capital
- 19 Force, LLC?
- 20 A. He did not use the word "personally." The
- 21 only thing he said was he was going to pay.
- Q. I need you to answer the question yes or no.
- 23 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
- 24 question.
- 25 BY MR. HUDSON:



```
Page 27
         Ο.
             You can answer.
2
              MR. HUDSON: That doesn't sound like a yes or
3
         no.
              THE INTERPRETER: During 2022, he said he was
5
         going to pay.
              MR. HUDSON: Ms. Reporter, could you read the
6
7
         question back again.
              COURT REPORTER: Read back the question?
9
         Sure. Give me one second.
10
              (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as
    requested.)
11
12
    BY MR. HUDSON:
             Yes or no?
13
         Q.
14
         Α.
              I don't know.
15
              Do you have any evidence that Mr. Costantini
    agreed to personally repay you the money that you loaned
16
    to Capital Force?
17
18
              THE INTERPRETER: You want yes or no response,
19
         or how do you want it?
20
              MR. HUDSON: However you want to give it.
21
              THE WITNESS: The -- the thing that happened
22
         when I stopped receiving the money, or I was not
23
         able to withdraw the money, I had a health problem
24
         that I had a panic attack and a loss of hearing.
2.5
         And because of that, my dad called Matias on the
```



Page 28 They spoke twice for a long time. 2 Matias always responded with tranquility that 3 everything had already been thought of, and everything was going to be paid. It was 5 transmitting tranquility. BY MR. HUDSON: 6 Did Juan -- I need you to answer this question yes or no. Did Juan Cruz Talia Brown ever promise to personally repay you the money you loaned to Capital 10 Force? Α. No. 11 12 I need you to answer this question yes or no. Did Jonathan Culley ever personally agree to repay you 13 14 any of the money that your company loaned to Capital 15 Force? Α. No. 16 I need you to answer this question yes or no. 17 Q. Did Juan Cruz Talia Brown ever make any representations 18 19 to you of any kind about the deal Where Meltorme loaned Capital Force \$180,000? Cruz Talia Brown? 20 21 Α. Juan Cruz, no. Did Jonathan Culley ever make any 22 23 representations to you about Meltorme's loan to Capital 24 Force; yes or no?



2.5

A. No.

- 1 Q. Other than the presentation that Matias made
- 2 to you in the Brickell office when you met him in
- 3 person, did you rely on anything else when deciding to
- 4 make your loan to Capital Force?
- 5 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
- 6 question.
- 7 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. You can answer.
- 9 A. I did not understand the question well, but I
- 10 would like to add something.
- 11 Q. No.
- 12 MR. VAZQUEZ: No. Just please answer the --
- 13 let him rephrase the question and answer.
- 14 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 15 Q. At the meeting with Matias, you said they
- 16 showed you information on a screen, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Were you given that information in any form
- 19 other than being shown it on a screen?
- 20 A. I don't remember.
- 21 Q. Okay. What were you shown on the screen?
- 22 A. That I was investing in an incredible business
- 23 with zero risk.
- Q. Do you recall what the prevailing
- 25 international interest rates were in January of 2020?



```
Page 30
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
1
2
         question.
3
              THE WITNESS: I don't remember.
    BY MR. HUDSON:
5
             You know what the prime rate is?
             I don't understand the question.
6
7
         Q.
              You've never heard of the expression, "the
    prime rate of interest"?
              I don't know the question.
9
10
         Q.
              Do you know what Treasury bills are?
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
11
12
         question.
13
    BY MR. HUDSON:
14
         Q. Yes or no. Do you know what Treasury bills
15
    are?
16
              MR. VAZQUEZ: And for the record, U.S.
17
         Treasury bills?
18
              THE WITNESS: If you want to explain to me
         what that is, nope.
19
    BY MR. HUDSON:
2.0
21
              I just want to know if you know what it is.
22
    Do banks in Argentina pay interest on accounts?
              Fixed term or buying bonds?
23
         Α.
24
              Well, bonds typically have a fixed term. But
         Q.
    on an account, on a general savings account or checking
25
```



- 1 account in Argentina, what would the rate have been that
- 2 bank would have paid you on that money in January of
- 3 2020?
- 4 A. Argentina was never a secure country. That's
- 5 why I invested in the U.S.
- 6 Q. Well, to cut this short, the prevailing rate
- 7 of interest on a safe investment in January of 2022, for
- 8 instance, a Treasury, a United States Treasury bill,
- 9 which is guaranteed by the federal government, was two
- 10 percent. And typically, as interest rates go up, they
- 11 go up because there's additional risk. So the interest
- 12 rate that you were promised, ten percent, was five times
- 13 what the world believes would have been the return on a,
- 14 quote, "safe investment."
- 15 MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. If there is a question,
- I'll object to the form.
- 17 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 18 Q. So did you really believe that you were
- 19 getting five times the market rate interest on a risk-
- 20 free investment?
- 21 A. Well, that's what Matias Costantini explained
- 22 to me, looking straight into my eyes, that this was the
- 23 rate that he was going to pay and without any risk. And
- 24 had it been otherwise, I would not have gotten -- paid
- 25 the investment.



```
Page 32
             How do you think COVID impacted businesses
 2
    around the world?
 3
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
         question.
 4
 5
              THE WITNESS: Looking at -- looking at this
         from the standpoint of my investment -- so the car
 6
7
              THE INTERPRETER:
                                Interpreter needs
9
         clarification. Okay.
10
              THE WITNESS: So -- so the -- the cars that
         were a guarantee, they went up exponentially and
11
12
         beyond that, the U.S. Government -- Capital Force
         for the context. The U.S. Government would
13
14
         provide companies with money such as Capital Force
15
         because of that international context.
16
    BY MR. HUDSON:
             How much money did the United States
17
         0.
    government give Capital Force?
18
19
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
20
         question.
21
              MR. HUDSON: What's wrong with that?
22
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Which entity within the Capital
23
        Force Group?
              THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know how much that
24
25
         might -- might have been, but they were saying
```



- 1 everything is going well, you know, everything is
- going well. And that's what they would relay to
- me.
- 4 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 5 Q. Tell me what it was Capital Force was using
- 6 the money for?
- 7 A. In real terms, I don't know what they might
- 8 have used the money for, but what they were saying is
- 9 that they were going to use the money to loan to
- 10 individuals so they could buy a car.
- 11 Q. And did you understand those individuals to be
- 12 lower income individuals with questionable credit
- 13 ratings?
- 14 A. I don't know that, but what really draws my
- 15 attention is, why didn't they stop their operations
- 16 before if that was the case and because of -- they ended
- 17 up using all the capital.
- 18 Q. Do you understand that the operations
- 19 regarding the actual loans were run by a company called
- 20 VSC and not Capital Force?
- 21 A. They never let me know that.
- 22 Q. Okay. Well, that was in all of the materials
- 23 that they provided to anybody. So you must not have
- 24 received those materials, correct?
- MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the



Page 34 question. 2 BY MR. HUDSON: 3 Q. You can answer. I only based myself on what Matias said to me. 5 Q. Okay. And did Matias tell you that he was the expert in subprime automobile lending? 6 7 He told me he was an expert in finances who had worked for Merrill Lynch. And that to me said that he would be good at managing the money. He wasn't going 10 to do it badly. Okay. So let's be clear, all of the materials 11 Q.. 12 that any, what you would call investor, including you were given contained information that said that a 13 14 different company was running all of the day-to-day 15 operations of the automobile financing operation. 16 Earlier you testified that you didn't recall if you received any of the materials that you were shown 17 on the screen. Now that I've informed you of some of 18 19 the information that was in some of that, some of those 20 materials, does it help you remember whether you ever 21 received those materials or not? 22 I gave the money to Capital Force, never to Vehicle --23

- Q. Solutions.
- 25 A. Solutions. And that -- that's what was



- 1 mentioned when I spoke with Matias.
- Q. Okay. Yeah. Did you ever -- do you have any
- 3 recollection of ever receiving any written materials
- 4 from anybody about this investment?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. So the only thing that you relied on -- I need
- 7 you to answer this, yes or no. The only thing that you
- 8 relied on were the representations made by Matias
- 9 Costantini, correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Did you ever hire a lawyer to help you with
- 12 this transaction?
- 13 A. Well, when they did not fulfill the terms.
- 14 Q. No. Before the notes were signed and before
- 15 the money was advanced, did you hire a lawyer to help
- 16 you with this?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. So now, the only representations that you
- 19 relied on were the verbal representations of Mr.
- 20 Costantini. So now we have a baseline, agreed?
- 21 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
- 22 question.
- You can answer, sir.
- 24 THE WITNESS: So I base myself on the
- conversation with Matias Costantini. You know, we



- 1 had a talk, we got together, and we had a talk and
- 2 there it was said that there was going to be there
- was not going to be any risk. And additionally,
- 4 also with what Diego Gomez said about investing
- 5 there.
- 6 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 7 Q. Why didn't you sue Diego Gomez?
- 8 A. They -- he was fired.
- 9 Q. Doesn't mean you can't sue him. Do you know
- 10 what fraud is?
- 11 A. It -- it sounds to me as if it's tricking
- 12 someone and diverting other funds that belong to
- 13 somebody else.
- 14 Q. You are suing my three clients for fraud.
- 15 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form of the
- 16 question.
- 17 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 18 Q. In the United States, that means that they
- 19 told you something that they knew when they told you was
- 20 untrue that caused you to give them money, and you lost
- 21 that money?
- 22 A. Yes. And I'm not the only one. Several other
- 23 individuals went through the same thing.
- Q. Actually, I've taken the deposition of every
- 25 other Plaintiff, except you, and not one has had any



```
Page 37
    evidence of fraud so far.
             MR. VAZQUEZ: If that's a question, I'll
 2
 3
         object to the form.
    BY MR. HUDSON:
 5
         Q. So let's find out what statements Matias
    Costantini made to you that --
7
              MR. VAZQUEZ: I truly apologize to interrupt
         you. I really have to go to the restroom and just
9
         give me 30 seconds. I've been waiting --
10
              MR. HUDSON: --
              MR. VAZQUEZ: -- okay? It's not in the middle
11
12
        of an answer, so --
              COURT REPORTER: Okay. Off the record. 2:39
13
14
         p.m.
15
              (Off Record.)
16
              COURT REPORTER: 2:42 p.m. We're back on the
17
         record.
    BY MR. HUDSON:
18
19
         Q. Do you know what a Ponzi scheme is?
20
         Α.
             Yes.
21
         Q.
             What is it?
22
            To pay interest to the investments from money
23
    paid by other investors rather than from money made out
    of genuine investments.
24
25
        Q. Okay. And what evidence do you have that any
```



- 1 of the Capital Force Group did that?
- 2 A. They were taking in money, right to the very
- 3 end, even when the business was going badly, and they
- 4 knew they were not going to be able to return that.
- 5 Q. That wasn't my question. My question is: What
- 6 evidence do you have that they were taking money from
- 7 one creditor and using it to pay another creditor?
- 8 A. That's in the investigations.
- 9 Q. Okay. What investigations?
- 10 A. The ones that we did collectively, all of the
- 11 affected parties, with the attorney.
- 12 Q. What does that mean?
- 13 A. When -- when the moment comes, the evidence
- 14 will be shown.
- 15 Q. No. I'm entitled to the evidence today. Tell
- 16 me specifically what evidence you have seen or have that
- 17 my clients paid creditors with money from other
- 18 creditors?
- 19 A. Well, how did they ever -- how were they ever
- 20 able to pay interest between 2020 and 2021 if the
- 21 business was already going badly, if not by taking money
- 22 from one investor and take -- paying it to another?
- 23 Q. Answer the following question yes or no: Do
- 24 you personally have any evidence that my clients --
- 25 strike that.



Page 39 Do you personally have any evidence that Capital Force or any of the Capital Force entities use 2 3 creditor money to pay other creditors? MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to form. 5 THE WITNESS: I cannot respond yes or no because I don't know. 6 7 BY MR. HUDSON: So as we sit here today, you have no evidence that my clients, or I'm sorry, that Capital Force used 10 money from one creditor to pay another. You personally have no such evidence, correct? Yes or no? 11 12 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to form. BY MR. HUDSON: 13 14 0. You're under oath. 15 There's an article published in a Chilean outlet that a Chilean fund was paid everything that was 16 owed to it. How did they ever -- were they ever able --17 what did -- what did they do to be able to pay for that? 18 19 And simultaneously, all guaranteed collateral and all the money disappeared? 20 21 I'm going to move the strike that is 22 unresponsive. 23 So I want to ask you one more time. I don't want to have to go to the Judge and ask the Judge to ask 24



25

you. So --

```
Page 40
             MR. VAZQUEZ: I'm going to object to this last
 2
 3
    BY MR. HUDSON:
        Q. So --
 5
              MR. HUDSON: You're just making it worse.
              MR. VAZQUEZ: I'm telling him to answer. How
         am I making it worse?
    BY MR. HUDSON:
         Q. So please answer my question simply yes or no.
10
    As we sit here today --
             MR. HUDSON: Go ahead.
11
12
    BY MR. HUDSON:
         Q. -- do you have any evidence other than the
13
14
    article you just referenced that any of the Capital
    Force entities used creditor money to pay other
16
    creditors?
17
             MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to form.
18
             Please answer the question.
    BY MR. HUDSON:
19
             Yes or no? Yes, you have evidence? Your
20
         Q.
21
    answer is yes?
22
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form.
23
    BY MR. HUDSON:
24
       Q. Was your answer yes?
             MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to form.
2.5
```



Page 41 THE WITNESS: I don't know. 2 BY MR. HUDSON: 3 So I've given you two choices: yes or no. Q. And your answer is: I don't know, correct? 5 Α. I don't understand the question. I don't know what -- I don't understand what's happening. 6 MR. HUDSON: Put a motion to compel here as part of the transcript. 9 BY MR. HUDSON: 10 Q. We're going to ask the Judge at some point to compel you to answer the question directly. And we will 11 12 not be able to finish your deposition today because of So you may get to come back to Miami for vacation 13 14 in the near future. 15 Well, if you can repeat the question, because I did not understand it --16 MR. VAZQUEZ: And hold on one second. Note my 17 18 objection, okay? That he answered -- my client, 19 Mr. Ini, on behalf of Meltorme, answered the 20 question the best he could. And he's now asking to 21 rephrase the question he didn't understand. 22 MR. HUDSON: I've asked it three times, and 23 he's avoided me three times. I believe he's intentionally avoiding the answer, so we'll let the 24 2.5 Judge deal with it.



```
Page 42
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. Note for the record that
2
         I'm requesting that you call the Judge, if we can
3
         at this point, the magistrate, okay? And we take
         it up with the magistrate now, considering that he
5
         traveled all the way from Argentina for the second
         time.
6
7
              And that the discovery deadline is presently
         set for July 1st, and that Plaintiff's Counsel does
8
9
         not agree to any further extensions of discovery at
10
         this point for any of the parts.
    BY MR. HUDSON:
11
12
         Q.
              So earlier we've discussed --
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Are we calling it off, or are we
13
14
         going forward?
15
              MR. HUDSON: No, we're going forward.
16
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay.
              MR. HUDSON: I'm going to get as much as I can
17
         because I may not get another shot at him.
18
19
    BY MR. HUDSON:
20
              So we -- earlier we talked about what fraud
21
    is, and we generally agreed that fraud was an
22
    intentional misrepresentation that harmed you.
23
    we need to do now is to go through each and every
24
    representation that Matias made to you that you
25
    considered to have been fraudulent when he made it at
```



- 1 that meeting in Brickell.
- 2 So tell me -- start with whichever one you
- 3 want.
- 4 A. The option he gave me of investing and getting
- 5 a ten percent return -- interest, that was the option
- 6 with no risk. If I wanted to earn more money, for
- 7 example, an approximately 20 percent, that would be to
- 8 go in as a partner, both in losses or in further gains.
- 9 So I opted for the option without risk.
- 10 Nevertheless -- nevertheless, I only got ten percent
- 11 interest for two months, then they reduced it to six,
- 12 and then to eight. But if I wanted to earn more, we
- 13 also had the option to bring in more investments who
- 14 would provide them with more money. And then there he
- 15 would give me one -- he could give me one point for each
- 16 investor, but I never took anyone.
- 17 Q. So he gave you a fixed interest option or a
- 18 profit option that had a higher rate of return, correct?
- 19 A. I chose the one that was fixed and without
- 20 risk.
- 21 Q. Understood. And the other option was a profit
- 22 option. You would have to share in the profits, but the
- 23 profit option had risk, correct?
- 24 A. That -- that option would've been a greater
- 25 profit, but with risk. And I said no to that.



Page 44 Q. You agree that under the option that you 2 chose, you were never entitled to any profit of Capital 3 Force, correct, simply a fixed return? A. Force? MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form. 5 BY MR. HUDSON: Q. Did he answer? Well, the option was to get a fixed rate. But nevertheless, they unilaterally lowered it. 10 MR. HUDSON: Motion to strike. Unresponsive. MR. VAZQUEZ: What was the question? 11 12 BY MR. HUDSON: Listen to my question and answer it. Under 13 Q. 14 the option you selected, you would agree with me that 15 you were not entitled to any profits of Capital Force, correct? Answer yes or no. 16 Interests or profit? 17 Α. Q. Read the --18 19 MR. VAZQUEZ: I'm going to object to the form 20 of the question. 21 MR. HUDSON: Ms. Reporter, read it back to 22 him. 23 (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as requested.) 24 THE WITNESS: I don't understand the question. 2.5



```
Page 45
         They were going to give you ten percent in
2
         interest.
3
    BY MR. HUDSON:
              Which means you're not entitled to any profit,
         Q.
5
    right? You're only entitled to interest, correct? Yes
    or no?
6
7
              MR. VAZQUEZ: I'm going to object -- give me
         one second.
8
9
              Did you note my objection?
10
              COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry.
              MR. VAZQUEZ: My objection is that I object as
11
12
         to the way the question is being asked to -- please
         note that I believe Mr. Hudson is raising his
13
14
         voice, and I ask that he please not do so.
15
              MR. HUDSON: And I believe the witness is
         being coached and every time the form objection is
16
         made, he's changing his response and his answer. I
17
         also believe that he's being intentionally evasive
18
19
         and refusing to answer very simple questions.
20
         Magistrate Judge will ultimately make that
21
         decision.
              Ms. Reporter, read the question back again,
22
23
         please.
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Ms. Reporter, for the record --
24
25
         okay. Let it be noted that the only objections
```



```
Page 46
         that Gerardo Vazquez as Plaintiff's counsel has
 2
         raised have been objections strictly related to the
 3
         form of the question.
              COURT REPORTER: Okay. I'm going to read
 5
         back.
              (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as
7
    requested.)
              THE WITNESS: Interest.
9
    BY MR. HUDSON:
10
         Q.
             That's not yes or no.
             Have them explain to me what's the difference
11
12
    between interest and profits.
         Q.
             Okay. Let's add that to the motion to compel.
13
    On Page 7 of the complaint in front of you, it's -- no.
14
    It's way in the beginning. You got to go to the
16
    beginning.
17
         A. Oh, the beginning.
             In the lawsuit. Those are exhibits.
         Q.
18
19
         Α.
            Right. Right. Right. Okay. So
    we're going to Page 7 of the --
20
21
             Yeah. There's pages on the bottom -- page
22
    numbers on the bottom.
             Yeah. Okay. 7. All right. Very good. 6.
23
        Α.
       There you go.
24
    7.
25
       Q. You don't read English, correct, sir?
```



- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. In Paragraph number 24, there's an
- 3 allegation that the Capital Force entities tricked you
- 4 somehow. One of the ways it says they tricked you was
- 5 telling you that the money was only going to be used for
- 6 purchasing car loans.
- 7 Do you believe that's one of the ways you were
- 8 tricked?
- 9 A. One of the ways.
- 10 Q. Okay. And what evidence do you have today
- 11 that they used any of your money for buying anything
- 12 other than car loans?
- 13 A. Through the bank statements and the financial
- 14 transactions -- banking financial transactions that my
- 15 attorney was able to get.
- 16 Q. So you've never seen those bank statements or
- 17 other documents that you're referencing, correct?
- 18 A. No. My attorney.
- 19 Q. On the next page, Paragraph 28. In 28, you
- 20 allege, through your lawyer, that my clients concealed
- 21 material facts.
- 22 As you sit here today, what material facts did
- 23 they conceal from you before you funded your \$180,000?
- 24 A. That the business was not secure, and it was
- 25 doing badly.



- 1 Q. What evidence do you have that the business
- 2 was doing badly in January of 2020?
- 3 A. Telephone conversations that my dad had with
- 4 Matias.
- 5 Q. You said the telephone conversations were much
- 6 later when they didn't pay you back?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. I'm asking you: Before you put the original
- 9 money in, what material facts did they admit --
- 10 A. No. Back then it was going fantastically.
- 11 Q. Okay. So in January 20 of '20, the business
- 12 were doing okay, right?
- 13 A. Yeah. According to Matias and Diego,
- 14 excellent.
- 15 Q. Would it surprise you that the tax returns for
- 16 2019 show that Capital Force entities were very
- 17 profitable?
- 18 MR. VAZQUEZ: I'm going to object to the form
- 19 of the question.
- 20 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. You can answer.
- 22 A. If it would surprise me? That is an emotion.
- 23 No. No. That's what they said. That would not
- 24 surprise me.
- 25 Q. When do you think the companies began to have



```
Page 49
    financial trouble?
 2
         A. I don't know. But if they're having financial
 3
    problems, you know, they -- they stop the ball, and they
    talk with the investors. The money doesn't disappear
    out of the blue.
5
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Can we go off the record one
 6
 7
         second? And what -- I'm going to just tell him to
         refocus a little bit on trying to listen to the
9
         question, ask and answer the question.
10
              MR. HUDSON: Okay.
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Because I understand --
11
12
              MR. HUDSON: Why don't you take him outside
         and have a conversation?
13
14
              MR. VAZQUEZ: I don't mind saying it here.
15
              MR. HUDSON: Okay.
16
             MR. VAZQUEZ: Whatever --
17
              COURT REPORTER: So let me go off record.
18
              THE INTERPRETER: Yeah. We're off the record.
19
             MR. VAZQUEZ: --
20
              COURT REPORTER: Off the record.
21
              (Off Record.)
22
              COURT REPORTER: Back on the record.
23
         p.m.
    BY MR. HUDSON:
24
25
         Q. Okay. So back to Paragraph 28 of Exhibit 1.
```



- 1 Are you alleging that my clients concealed material
- 2 facts from you about the financial condition of the
- 3 company prior to your investment?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. Where did you -- strike that.
- 6 Do you know where you wired the \$180,000?
- 7 A. To the escrow account that they provided me
- 8 with.
- 9 Q. And that was an attorney's escrow account,
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Did you ever meet that lawyer?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. Did you ever communicate with that lawyer in
- 15 any fashion?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Did you ever pay that lawyer any money?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. What other misrepresentations do you believe
- 20 Matias Costantini made to you prior to your advancing
- 21 your \$180,000 loan through Meltorme?
- 22 A. I don't recall.
- 23 Q. Turn to Page 13. Have you ever seen that flow
- 24 chart before?
- 25 A. I think the day that I got together with



- 1 Matias, this is what they put on the screen. You know,
- 2 I'm not sure, but I think this is the one.
- 3 Q. That's one of the pages of the PowerPoint you
- 4 were seen shown, correct?
- 5 A. Among many -- many pages. I think this was
- 6 one of them because of the format. It has.
- 7 Q. If you look at this flow chart, you'll see
- 8 three blue balloons on the left and three blue balloons
- 9 toward the right. I just pointed to them.
- 10 Do you see those?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. Underneath the three on the right, it
- 13 says, quote, "VSC acquires notes originated according to
- 14 VSC and CFF's underwriting policies," close quote. See
- 15 that?
- And below that in a rectangle, there are the
- 17 words, quote, "Vehicle Solutions Corporation" and below
- 18 that, "VSC," in parentheses.
- 19 Do you know what any of that means?
- 20 A. I suppose this might be -- be the partner that
- 21 Capital Force had.
- 22 Q. Did you ask any questions about that when you
- 23 were shown this flow chart?
- 24 A. No. I only based myself on Capital Force.
- Q. But you were aware then prior to your



- 1 investment that it had a partner VSC, correct?
- 2 A. That was not focused on.
- 3 Q. By you?
- 4 A. The party? No. No.
- 5 Q. Next page, Page 51 -- I'm sorry. Paragraph
- 6 51, Page 14. The last sentence in Paragraph 51 says,
- 7 "In reality, the actual default rate was actually close
- 8 to 30 percent."
- 9 As you sit here today, do you have any
- 10 information or evidence to support that statement?
- 11 A. No. No.
- 12 Q. Go to Paragraph 54 on that same page. I am
- 13 going to read it. Quote, "Costantini and Brown also
- 14 represented to investors that their principle and
- 15 interest payments were safe, guaranteed, and protected
- 16 by the profit Capital Force generated from high interest
- 17 rates, "parenthesis, "in excess of 20 percent," close
- 18 parenthesis, "Capital Force charged car loan borrowers."
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. As you sit here today, do you have any
- 21 evidence that statement is untrue?
- 22 A. No. No.
- 23 Q. As you sit here today, do you have any
- 24 evidence that Capital Force used the money from
- 25 creditors to fund luxury vacations, ski trips, buying



- 1 boats, or exotic luxury cars?
- 2 A. Because the -- no. I don't have that
- 3 information. I don't have that now.
- 4 Q. Have you ever personally seen any such
- 5 information?
- 6 A. No. No.
- 7 Q. Other than the article that you referenced in,
- 8 I believe it was either an Argentinian or Chilean paper,
- 9 do you have any evidence that Capital Force F1 or the
- 10 Chileans were paid 100 percent of their investment?
- 11 A. Any other evidence, no.
- 12 Q. Okay. Do you know what the term collateral
- 13 means?
- 14 A. Could that be just, like, a backing and a
- 15 guarantee.
- 16 Q. That's one way to look at it. Were you
- 17 promised collateral for your loan from Meltorme?
- 18 A. Cars.
- 19 Q. Okay. Were you given that collateral?
- 20 A. I asked for it, but no.
- 21 Q. Did they tell you why they didn't give it to
- 22 you?
- 23 A. No. No.
- Q. One of the allegations in your lawsuit is that
- 25 Capital Force used your collateral to pay off other



- 1 creditors. Do you have any evidence of that as you sit
- 2 here today?
- 3 A. Not here.
- Q. Anywhere?
- 5 A. No. More than the notes that I mentioned
- 6 before, no.
- 7 Q. Have you personally ever seen any evidence
- 8 that my clients or Capital Force sold any collateral
- 9 that belonged to you to anybody else?
- 10 A. No. No evidence.
- 11 Q. You were in Argentina when COVID began,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. In March, I was in Argentina.
- 14 Q. Okay. And did you leave Argentina from the
- 15 beginning of March of 2020 to the end of 2020?
- 16 A. That was prohibited. No.
- 17 Q. Right. And were people in Argentina prevented
- 18 from going to work for most of 2020?
- 19 A. Home office.
- 20 Q. Most people worked from home, correct? Do you
- 21 think it was any different in the United States?
- 22 A. The lockdown in the U.S. lasted a lot less
- 23 than in Argentina.
- 24 Q. When do you recall the lockdown began in the
- 25 United States?



- 1 A. They delayed it as long as possible, and they
- 2 lifted it as soon as possible, but I don't recall the
- 3 dates.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree it was several months?
- 5 MR. VAZQUEZ: Object to the form.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I don't know what several months
- 7 are.
- 8 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. Yeah.
- 11 Q. Would you agree that people couldn't go to
- 12 work in the United States because they couldn't use
- 13 their cars to go to work in the United States, at least
- 14 at some point during 2020?
- 15 A. At some point, I suppose, yes, but I don't
- 16 know for how long.
- 17 Q. Okay. And if the people that were buying
- 18 these car loans were lower income folks, do you think
- 19 they would spend money on buying food or paying their
- 20 car loan?
- 21 A. Well, that depends on each person.
- 22 Q. So there's a circumstance that if you were a
- 23 lower income person, that you would make your car
- 24 payment and not pay for food for your family and your
- 25 kids?



- 1 A. I can't imagine that because I would never ask
- 2 for a loan.
- 3 MR. HUDSON: Guess I'll have to talk to his
- 4 girlfriend.
- 5 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 6 Q. And do you think that the demand for cars
- 7 increased or decreased at the beginning of COVID?
- 8 A. Well, I imagine that in 2020 it went down, and
- 9 then they went back up in 2021 because they had stopped
- 10 making cars in 2020.
- 11 Q. I would agree with you. That's inconsistent
- 12 with something you said earlier, though. Right. Turn
- 13 to Page 45. On Page 45, beginning at the bottom and
- 14 going over to the next page is a discussion about a
- 15 phone call that you had with Costantini in December of
- 16 2019. And the next page, Paragraph 183, has a list of
- 17 representations that you say were made during that phone
- 18 call. So let's go through them briefly.
- 19 183A, "Capital Force had a longstanding track
- 20 record of being extremely profitable and maintained
- 21 ample reserves in the extremely unlikely event of any
- 22 short falls."
- You understand that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And I think we talked about, maybe 20



- 1 minutes ago, that you believe that Capital Force was
- 2 profitable at least through early 2020, correct?
- 3 A. Based on this conversation, yes.
- 4 Q. Right. And you have no evidence to show that
- 5 it wasn't profitable in either December of 2019 or
- 6 January 2020, correct?
- 7 A. Of course I don't have any evidence.
- 8 Q. Okay. The next statement is, "Meltorme's
- 9 investment would be used exclusively to purchase car
- 10 loans, which would be acquired by Capital Force, and
- 11 thereafter, pledged in favor of Meltorme as collateral
- 12 for Meltorme's investment."
- 13 Understand that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And we've talked a little bit about that
- 16 already today as well, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And as you sit here today, you have no
- 19 evidence that that statement was untrue when made,
- 20 correct?
- 21 A. I have no evidence.
- Q. Do you know what negligence is?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. What is it?
- 25 A. Negligence, I suppose, is to do something bad



```
Page 58
    without the intent of doing so or because of incapacity.
             Okay. That's fair. Do you think it's more
 2
 3
    likely that my clients were negligent than intentionally
    defrauded you?
 4
 5
         Α.
              I don't have any evidence of that.
              MR. VAZQUEZ: That was -- I don't know.
 6
 7
         rephrase the question. Okay. Just to make sure --
    BY MR. HUDSON:
 9
             Looking back two or three years later today,
10
    isn't it more likely that my clients may have ultimately
    run the companies poorly because of COVID as opposed to
11
12
    intentionally defrauding the creditors?
              MR. VAZQUEZ: I'm going to object to the form
13
14
         of the question.
15
              Please answer.
16
              THE WITNESS: I don't know.
              MR. HUDSON: All right. Mr. Interpreter,
17
         we're going to try to speed this up. Instead of me
18
19
         reading this into the record, I'm just going to ask
         you to read to him 183C, as in Charlie. Tell me
20
21
         when you're done.
              THE INTERPRETER: Okay. Interpreter will read
22
23
         it into Spanish, 183C.
              MR. HUDSON: Yes. Yes.
24
2.5
    BY MR. HUDSON:
```



Page 59 You understand that? Ο. So before doing any kind of operation, they --2 Α. 3 they would really take -- take a lot of care. Q. Do you have any evidence, as you sit here 5 today, that they -- that this statement was untrue when made at the end of '19 or the beginning of 2020? 6 No. Because I wasn't in the business. I don't know that. Q. Okay. So 183D, as in David, "They represented 10 that they had over 20 years of experience in the auto finance industry." Was that representation made to you? 11 12 A. I -- I don't remember, but that -- that they were experts in finances. I don't know if it was 13 14 automobiles or something else. 15 Q. Okay. 16 Α. Yeah. 17 MR. HUDSON: The next one. Go ahead. 18 THE INTERPRETER: Interpreter will read 183D -19 - E. E. E. BY MR. HUDSON: 20 21 Q. E. E. 22 Α. Yes. 23 Ο. Do you remember that representation being made? 24 25 A. Yes.



Page 60 Do you have any evidence that it was untrue? 1 Q. 2 Α. No. 3 MR. HUDSON: Next page. Please read him number F. 5 BY MR. HUDSON: Was that representation made to you by Matias 6 before you funded? 7 I don't remember. Okay. Do you have any evidence that that 9 10 statement was untrue, when made? A. No. 11 12 MR. HUDSON: Okay. Please read him -- or 13 translate G. 14 BY MR. HUDSON: 15 Do you ever recall that representation being 16 made? Α. 17 No. The information that you were shown on the Q. screen in Miami in January of 2020, was it in English, 19 or Spanish? 20 21 Α. It was in English. 22 So you were less comfortable with that than

- 23 what -- it had been in Spanish, correct?
- A. Matias's personality convinced me.
- Q. No. I think you've been pretty consistent in



Page 61 saying, essentially, you relied on what Matias told you, 2 verbally, on that phone call, and in that meeting, as 3 opposed to anything else. Is that a fair statement? Yes. I trusted him. 5 Α. Do you understand that a representation made 6 7 after you funded cannot be a basis for fraud? Α. What was that? 9 MR. HUDSON: Ms. Reporter? We're on --10 (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as requested.) 11 12 THE WITNESS: I didn't know that. BY MR. HUDSON: 13 Well, think about it. If you've already given 14 15 the money to me, I can't harm you anymore because you've already lost your money -- this is why I think 16 negligence is more likely to be the explanation, here. 17 Fraud requires the misrepresentation to be the cause of 18 19 you giving me the money. But at that time, I was trusting. In 2020, 20 21 there wasn't any problem. And that's why, in 2021, I renewed, after all of the talks. 22



But you had already funded the money. The

renewal is meaningless because you'd already funded the

23

24

25

money.

- 1 A. I left it there so that they could continue
- 2 paying me interest.
- 3 Q. So did everybody else. And by the way, the
- 4 Chileans only received about 60 percent of their money
- 5 back, and they spent two years doing due diligence on
- 6 the company.
- 7 A. The problem was in 2022, when everything
- 8 became known at.
- 9 Q. We agree. You're aware that we're suing our
- 10 partner for fraud, correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you know what the ABCs are? ABC. When we
- 13 talk about the ABCs, you know what they -- what that
- 14 means?
- 15 A. I believe it's -- that would be a -- a third,
- 16 indirect company that deals with liquidating companies.
- 17 Q. Close. In 2020 -- late 2021, or early 2022,
- 18 my clients became concerned with the truthfulness of the
- 19 information they were getting from their partners. The
- 20 partner handled all the money and all the cars, and we
- 21 would get reports. In April of 2020, we were told there
- 22 were \$16 million worth of assets remaining.
- A. How much?
- 24 Q. 16 million. In the late summer of 2022,
- 25 because my clients were concerned, they decided to file



Page 63 the ABC proceedings. They did so because they wanted the creditors, including you, to feel that there was a 2 3 third-party professional trying to get as much money -to pay everybody back. 5 In September of 2022, when we filed the ABCs, our partner told us the assets were now only \$3 million. 6 7 The person in charge of the ABCs said there were zero assets left when we filed the ABC. Obviously, somebody was lying. We have concerns the ABC did not do its job, 10 and we have concerns that our client, our partner, defrauded us, and that's why we are suing them. 11 12 Are you aware of any of that? Well, whatever is done to recover the money, 13 Α. that would be well done. 14 15 Ο. We agree. 16 MR. HUDSON: I am not going to bother with the admissions. 17 MR. VAZQUEZ: One minute to go to the 18 19 restroom? 20 MR. HUDSON: Yeah. Let's take a few minutes. 21 I'm almost done. COURT REPORTER: Off the record. 3:36 p.m. 22 23 (Off record.) 24 COURT REPORTER: 4:03 p.m. We're back on the 2.5 record.



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Page 64
              MR. HUDSON: Did you tell him, or do I need to
 2
         say it again?
 3
              Subject to the questions and the motion to
         Compel, we're done for the day.
 5
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. And for the record, once
         again, my client has traveled from Argentina for
 6
 7
         the second time. He was the corporate
         representative for the plaintiff, Meltorme, and it
 9
         is now 4:04 p.m. in the afternoon. And Mr. Ini is
10
         available until 5:00 to answer any questions or
         have any questions asked again on behalf of
11
         individual defendants. So if Mr. Hudson is taking
12
         a position that certain questions were not answered
13
14
         by Mr. Ini, I encourage Mr. Hudson to re-ask those
15
         questions at this moment.
              MR. HUDSON: Ms. Reporter, I asked you to mark
16
17
         those. Can you find them?
               (Thereupon, the reporter played back the
18
19
    record as requested.)
              COURT REPORTER: Is that where we want to
20
21
         start?
22
              MR. HUDSON:
                          Yeah. Let's do that one.
23
              COURT REPORTER: Yes.
24
              MR. HUDSON: Okay. Go ahead and tell him --
25
         read the question, please. Yeah. I want you to
```



```
Page 65
         read it not -- to refresh my recollection. Just
 2
         read it from the record so we have the exact
 3
         question.
              COURT REPORTER: Okay. Hold on here. Okay.
 5
              "So as we sit here today, you have no evidence
         that Capital Force used money from one creditor to
 6
 7
         pay another? You personally have no such evidence,
         correct?"
 9
               (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as
10
    requested.)
              THE WITNESS: No.
11
12
              MR. HUDSON: One down.
13
              COURT REPORTER: The next one after that, you
14
         are asking, "Please answer my question. Yes or no?
15
         As we sit here today, do you have any evidence
         other than the article that you just referenced,
16
         that any of the Capital Force entities use
17
         creditors or monies to pay other creditors?"
18
19
               (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as
20
    requested.)
21
              MR. HUDSON: I don't think -- no.
22
         another --
23
              COURT REPORTER: Another?
              MR. HUDSON: I'm okay with that because he's
24
2.5
         answered that. There was another one with a
```



```
Page 66
         different subject matter.
 2
              THE WITNESS: Possibly before.
 3
              COURT REPORTER: Maybe a little before.
              MR. HUDSON: I made a little note. But --
 4
 5
         you're looking for motion to compel?
              COURT REPORTER: Yeah. Shortly --
 6
7
              MR. HUDSON: That's probably the way -- best -
8
9
              COURT REPORTER: But that's within the same
10
         line of questioning.
              MR. HUDSON: Right. But there was another one
11
12
         with a different line that I added. I think that
13
         was the first one because I started with the Ponzi
14
         scheme earlier.
15
              COURT REPORTER: I'm going to have to play it
         just so I can.
16
              MR. HUDSON: That's fine. Or look up "add
17
         that" because I remember saying "add that" to the -
18
19
              THE INTERPRETER: I wrote down Ponzi here.
20
                                                            Ι
21
         want to find that.
              (Thereupon, the reporter played back the
22
23
    record as requested.)
              COURT REPORTER: I think it was regarding the
24
25
         profits when you started talking about --
```



```
Page 67
                                 That's exactly what it was.
              MR. HUDSON: Yes.
 2
         All right. I can try to re-ask it if you can't
 3
         find it. I know what it is now.
              COURT REPORTER: Can I just read the last?
 5
              MR. HUDSON: Yeah. Go ahead.
              COURT REPORTER: It says, "Well, the options
 6
7
         was to get a fixed rate, but nevertheless, they
         were unlikely lowered." Hold on. Let me play it.
9
              (Thereupon, the reporter read the record as
10
    requested.)
              MR. HUDSON: I think that's his answer.
11
12
              COURT REPORTER: Yeah. That was his answer.
13
              MR. HUDSON: Yeah.
14
              COURT REPORTER: Yeah. That was the question.
15
              MR. HUDSON: You were never entitled to
         profit, just fixed rate. So you want to read it,
16
17
         or do you want me to ask it?
18
              COURT REPORTER: Oh, I'm sorry. I thought you
         were just asking.
19
20
              MR. HUDSON: No. I'll ask it. I'll ask it.
21
              COURT REPORTER:
                               Okay.
22
              MR. HUDSON: Let's go. Ready?
23
    BY MR. HUDSON:
         Q. You've testified that you were given two
24
25
    options by Mr. Costantini, a ten percent fixed rate or a
```



```
Page 68
    higher rate with more risk, correct?
2
         Α.
             Yes.
3
         Q.
              And you opted for the fixed rate, correct?
         Α.
            Yes.
              And therefore, you were not entitled to any
5
         Q.
    profit participation from my clients or CF, correct?
7
         Α.
              Yes.
              MR. HUDSON: Okay. We're done. You don't
         want to come back to Miami and see me again in a
9
10
         week?
              We're off the record.
11
12
              THE WITNESS: If we do --
13
              COURT REPORTER: Before --
14
              THE WITNESS: -- some show together.
15
              COURT REPORTER: -- I just need to do some
16
         housekeeping.
17
              This concludes today's deposition.
18
              Will the witness read or waive?
19
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Waive.
2.0
              COURT REPORTER: And will there be any orders
         at this time?
21
22
              MR. HUDSON: Me.
23
              COURT REPORTER: Is standard delivery okay?
24
              MR. VAZQUEZ: No. I'll give it --
25
              MR. HUDSON: Standard for the moment. Yeah.
```



```
Page 69
              COURT REPORTER: And just to --
 2
              MR. HUDSON: We keep the exhibits.
 3
              COURT REPORTER: Okay.
              MR. HUDSON: And we're -- we'll provide you
5
         with a subpoena.
              COURT REPORTER: All right. And we do have
 6
7
         one --
              MR. VAZQUEZ: You want my binder?
9
              COURT REPORTER: -- exhibit. This whole --
10
         this is going to be one exhibit?
              MR. HUDSON: Yeah. I think it was just this
11
12
         one.
13
              COURT REPORTER: Okay.
14
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Phil, you want the binder?
15
              MR. HUDSON: No. You can take it.
16
              MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay.
17
              MR. HUDSON: It's just Carlos I was giving a
        hard time.
18
              COURT REPORTER: Okay. Off the record at 4:14
19
20
         p.m.
21
              (Thereupon, the deposition was concluded at
22
    4:14 p.m.)
23
              (Reading and signing of the deposition
    transcript was waived.)
24
25
```



	Page 70
1	CERTIFICATE OF OATH
2	STATE OF FLORIDA
3	COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE
4	
5	I, Jasmine Mercedes, Court Reporter, Notary
6	Public, State of Florida, certify that Andres Ini,
7	personally appeared before me on the 26th day of
8	June 2024, and was duly sworn.
9	Signed this 13th day of July 2024.
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	Jasmine Mercedes, Court Reporter
15	Notary Public, State of Florida
16	Commission No.: HH 231847
17	Commission Expires: March 11, 2026
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	



	Page 71
1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	STATE OF FLORIDA
3	COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE
4	
5	I, Jasmine Mercedes, Court Reporter, certify
6	that I was authorized to and did report the
7	Deposition of Andres Ini; that a review of the
8	transcript was waived; and that the transcript is a
9	true and correct record of my notes.
10	I further certify that I am not a relative,
11	employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the
12	parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of
13	the parties' attorneys or counsel connected with
14	the action, nor am I financially interested in the
15	action.
16	Dated this 13th day of July 2024.
17	
18	
19	
20	Jasmine Mercedes, Court Reporter
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	



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